## **REMARKS**

New claims 2-9 have been added and it is respectfully submitted that these additional claims do not introduce new subject matter, are fully supported by the application and are patentable over the prior art. Prompt and favorable consideration of these claims is earnestly sought.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all claims pending in the application, namely claims 2-9, are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner desire a telephonic interview to resolve any outstanding matters, he is sincerely invited to contact the undersigned at (631) 501-5713.

Respectfully submitted,

Carter, DeLuca, Farrell & Schmidt, LLP 445 Broad Hollow Road - Suite 225 Melville, New York 11747

Tel.: (631) 501-5713 Fax: (631) 501-3526

Send correspondence to:

Chief Patent Counsel Tyco Healthcare Group 150 Glover Avenue Norwalk, CT 06856

Dana A. Brussel Reg. No. 45,717

Attorney for Applicants